

[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai].

(a) whether they have appointed any medical practitioners as certifying surgeons, and if so, whom, and if not, why;

(b) whether they have prescribed the forms of the certificate to be granted by such surgeons; and

(c) whether they have appointed any additional inspectors?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (a) Certifying surgeons have not been appointed, as the need for their appointment has not been felt so far.

(b) No.

(c) No.

**Return of grants to Reading Rooms and Libraries
in 1096 and 1097.**

185. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: (a) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list of reading rooms and libraries of which the grant has been curtailed or increased during the last two years, i. e., 1096 and 1097?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any reasons for curtailing or increasing the grants in those cases, and if so, whether they have given the Managers or Secretaries of the institutions concerned any intimation of the reasons for the same?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (a) A list* of reading rooms and libraries in respect of which the grant was curtailed or increased during 1096 and 1097 is laid on the table.

(b) The reasons for curtailing or increasing the grants to these institutions are shown in this list against each institution. It is reported that, in cases where the grant was totally refused, the reasons for the same were, without exception, communicated to the Inspecting officers of the Education Department, with a view to the same being communicated to the parties concerned.

Excise Circle Officer, Alleppey.

186. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points?

(a) Who was the Excise Officer in charge of the Alleppey Circle during Chingam, 1098?

(b) Have Government received any report from the Excise Commissioner that this officer in charge of the Alleppey Circle allowed many of the shops in his Circle to run during Chingam, 1098, without realising the 2/20th security from the contractors as required by the Abkari Rules, and that he also infringed the Abkari Rules by allowing the toddy shop-keepers in his circle to bring toddy from the vend areas of Shertallai and Vaikam for sale in their shops in Chingam, 1098?

(c) If so, what action have the Government taken against this officer?

* Vide Appendix I pages 665 to 669.

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (a) Assistant Excise Commissioner Mr. T. V. Ramakrishna Aiyar.

(b) and (c) No such report has been received by Government.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: With reference to the part (b), may I know whether the Government have received any communication at all, or not, from the Excise Commissioner?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: No communication has been received by the Government on the subject referred to in that part.

Sale of toddy in the Arukutty Circle.

187. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the system now in force in the Arukutty Circle in regard to the sale of toddy?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The taluk vend rent system prevails in the Arukutty Circle.

Contract for the sale of toddy in the Arukutty Circle.

188. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) who the contractor for the sale of toddy in the Arukutty Circle is and how long he has been the contractor there; and

(b) whether the contract was put to public auction biennially before it was given to that contractor, and, if not, why?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (a) Mr. V. Balaguruswami Nadar has been the contractor since February 1921 (Kumbham 1096).

(b) The contract was not put up to auction, but was settled by negotiation, as auction is unsuited to the system of farming the manufacture and vend of toddy over large areas.

Irregularities in the Arukutty Circle.

189. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any report from the late Excise Commissioner Mr. N. Raman Pillai, stating that the Excise Officers in the Arukutty Circle were receiving a monthly subscription of Re. 1—as 8 from every tapper in the circle in return for a free license to sell toddy and make toddy arrack in his house, that, to avoid the independent jaggery arrack shop-keepers' complaints, they were forcing every tapper to buy a bottle of arrack from the arrack shop-keepers and that this system of issuing a bottle of arrack to a tapper was something like issuing free licenses to conduct malpractices?

(b) Who were the officers thus reported against?

(c) Have Government censured them for their malpractices?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (a) Yes.

(b) Mr. T. V. Ramakrishna Aiyar and some of the Inspectors working under him.